

In the Specification:

Please **replace** the paragraph at **page 1, lines 5 to 8**, with a replacement paragraph amended as follows:

This application is based on and claims the priority under 35 U.S.C. §119 of German Patent Application 102 41 573.0-22, filed on September 7, 2002. ~~2002, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.~~

Please **replace** the paragraph at **page 4, line 13 to page 5 line 6**, with a replacement paragraph amended as follows:

The above objects have been achieved according to the invention by a guard hose arrangement for protecting insulated electrical conductors for installation in a vehicle such as an aircraft, wherein the guard or protection hose arrangement comprises a plurality of guard hoses, each of which has an inner diameter for receiving at least one, preferably a multitude of the insulated electrical conductors, and wherein each guard hose comprises an outwardly facing first contour along its length for connection to at least one spacer which has ~~[[a]] two second contours~~ contour for cooperation with positioned so that one second contour contacts the outwardly facing first contour of the one of the two guard hose hoses while the other second contour contacts the outwardly facing contour of the other guard hose. This

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spacer is or ~~spaces~~ spacers are positioned between two neighboring guard hoses of said plurality of guard ~~hoses~~. hoses, whereby the second contours only partly encircle the respective first contour. One or many spacers may be positioned between two neighboring guard hoses along their length and the number of guard hoses is not limited except for practical purposes, whereby these hoses are precisely spaced from one another along any desired length. At least two guard hoses are interconnected by at least one spacer.

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 1 and 2, with a replacement paragraph amended as follows:

Fig. 1 is an end view of a guard hose arrangement with two guard hoses and one spacer;

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 3 to 5, with a replacement paragraph amended as follows:

Fig. 2 is a similar end view illustrating an in-line arrangement of four guard hoses held uniformly spaced from each other by three ~~spacer devices;~~ spacers;

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, line 16 to page 8, line 5, with a replacement paragraph amended as follows:

Fig. 1 shows an end view of two guard hoses 1 and 2 spaced from each other by a spacer 5 connected at its upper end at a junction 6 to the guard hose 1. The spacer 5 is connected at a junction 7 to the lower guard hose 2. Each guard hose 1, 2 holds a plurality of insulated electrical conductors 4 merely symbolically shown by randomly positioned dots. The guard hose arrangements according to the invention may be oriented vertically or in any other position as required by the installation conditions in an aircraft. The guard hoses 1 and 2 and the spacer or spacers 5 are preferably made of synthetic materials such as PTFE (Polytetrafluoroethylene).

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, lines 1 to 14, with a replacement paragraph amended as follows:

Fig. 8 shows schematically a spacer 5B having two side flanges SF1 and SF2 interconnected by a ~~land~~ connector section L. The side flanges SF1 and SF2 enclose with the ~~land~~ connector section L an angle  $\beta$  that is preferably 120°. However, and again depending on the installation requirements, the angle  $\beta$  may be selected, for example within the range of 90° to 150°. The side flanges SF1 and SF2 carry at their free edges the above described contours C2 for matching with respective contours on the surface of

guard hoses not shown in Fig. 8. The land L and the side flanges SF1, SF2 are preferably also provided with through holes, whereby particularly through holes in the land L will facilitate the securing of the spacers with the guard hoses to the aircraft frame structure. The contours C2 in Fig. 8 may, for example, be tongues shaped for cooperation with respective grooves in the guard hoses.

Please add a new paragraph at page 13, following line 14, as follows:

Figs. 1, 2, 3, 6 and 9 to 12 show that the second contours of the spacers only partly encircle or contact the respective first contours of the guard hoses because the first contours of the guard hoses have a larger circumferentially extending surface area than the second contours of the spacers.

**[RESPONSE CONTINUES ON NEXT PAGE]**

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